IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 24, and bridging to page 5, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

According to an aspect of the present invention, an actuator for a pickup includes: a fixed portion; a movable portion movable in each of a focusing direction extending along an optical axis of an objective lens and in a tracking direction substantially perpendicular to the focusing direction, for holding the objective lens; and a plurality of linear elastic members of five or more each having ends connected to the movable portion and the fixed portion, respectively. The linear elastic members that are adjacent to each other when viewed from the focusing direction are designed such that a dimension between connection portions of the linear elastic members connected to the fixed portion is larger than a dimension between connection portions of the linear elastic members connected to the movable portion. The plurality of linear elastic members have connection portions on a side of the fixed portion which are located on a first virtual circle and connection portions on a side of the movable portion which are located on a second virtual circle.

Please delete the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 4.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

According to another aspect of the present invention, an actuator for a pickup includes: a fixed portion; a movable portion movable in each of a focusing direction extending along an optical axis of an objective lens and in a tracking direction substantially perpendicular to the focusing direction, for holding the objective lens; and a plurality of linear elastic members of four or more each having ends connected to the movable portion and the fixed portion, respectively. The linear elastic members that are adjacent to each other when viewed from the focusing direction are designed such that a dimension between connection portions of the linear elastic members connected to the fixed portion is different from a dimension between connection portions of the linear elastic members connected to the movable portion. The linear elastic members that are adjacent to each other when viewed from the tracking direction are designed such that a dimension between connection portions of the linear elastic members connected to the fixed portion is different from a dimension between connection portions of the linear elastic members connected to the movable portion. The connection portions of the plurality of linear elastic members on a side of the fixed portion are located on a first virtual circle. The connection portions of the plurality of linear elastic members on a side of the movable portion are located on a second virtual circle that is different from the first virtual circle. The two virtual circles have a virtual center line connecting centers thereof to each other, the virtual center line intersecting at a single point with virtual extended lines extending on the side of the movable portion in a longitudinal direction of the plurality of linear elastic members.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

According to further aspect of the present invention, a method of producing an actuator for a pickup including a fixed portion, a movable portion movable in each of a focusing direction extending along an optical axis of an objective lens and in a tracking direction substantially perpendicular to the focusing direction, for holding the objective lens, and a plurality of linear elastic members of five or more each having ends connected to the movable portion and the fixed portion, respectively includes the steps of: disposing the linear elastic members that are adjacent to each other when viewed from the focusing direction such that a dimension between connection portions of the linear elastic members connected to the fixed portion is larger than a dimension between connection portions of the linear elastic members connected to the movable portion, in connecting the plurality of linear elastic members to the fixed portion and the movable portion; locating connection portions of the plurality of linear elastic members on a side of the fixed portion on a first virtual circle; and locating connection portions of the plurality of linear elastic members on a side of the movable portion on a second virtual circle.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 13, and bridging to page 7, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Further, according to still further aspect of the present invention, a method of producing an actuator for a pickup including a fixed portion, a movable portion movable in each of a focusing direction extending along an optical axis of an objective lens and in a tracking direction substantially perpendicular to the focusing direction, for holding the objective lens, and a plurality of linear elastic members of four or more each having ends connected to the movable portion and the fixed portion, respectively includes the steps of: disposing the linear elastic members that are adjacent to each other when viewed from the focusing direction such that a dimension between connection portions of the linear elastic members connected to the fixed portion is different from a dimension between connection portions of the linear elastic members connected to the movable portion, in connecting the plurality of linear elastic members to the fixed portion and the movable portion; disposing the linear elastic members are adjacent to each other when viewed from the tracking direction such that a dimension between connection portions of the linear elastic members connected to the fixed portion is different from a dimension between connection portions of the linear elastic members connected to the movable portion, in connecting the plurality of linear elastic members to the fixed portion and the movable portion; locating the connection portions of the plurality of linear elastic members on a side of the fixed portion on a first virtual circle; locating the connection portions of the plurality of linear elastic members on a side of the movable portion on a second virtual circle that is different from the first virtual circle; and disposing the plurality of linear elastic members such that a virtual center line connecting centers of the two virtual circles to each other intersects at a single

point with virtual extended lines extending on the side of the movable portion in a longitudinal direction of the plurality of linear elastic members.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Further, in the Embodiments 1 and 2 of the present invention, corresponding ones of the connection portions of the suspensions 550A to 550F are made symmetrical to each other vertically (i.e., toward a recording medium and away therefrom) and laterally across the center O of the virtual circle. In the present invention, however, corresponding ones of those connection portions may be asymmetrical to each other. For example, the four suspensions 550A to 550C and 550F may be located above the center O, whereas the two suspensions 550D and 550E may be located ~~above~~ below the center O. Corresponding ones of those connection portions may also be made laterally asymmetrical to each other. Further, these suspensions may be so combined with one another as to be disposed in a so-called slanting manner in this asymmetrical arrangement.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

For example, as shown in Fig. 8, line segments linking the connection portions of the respective suspensions 550A to 550F connected to the lens holder [[12]] 600 are not parallel to a plane of a coil substrate (not shown) mounted to the lens holder 600. Similarly, line segments linking the connection portions of the respective suspensions 550A to 550F connected to the suspension base 500 are not parallel to the plane of the coil substrate. In Fig. 8, only the suspensions 550A and 550B are illustrated, and other suspensions 550C to 550F are not illustrated.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 20, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

That is, the actuator 400 for the pickup is equipped with the suspension base 500 serving as a fixed portion, the lens holder 600 serving as a movable portion, and the ~~six suspensions 550A to 550F~~ four suspensions 550A to 550D serving as the linear elastic members for connecting the suspension base 500 and the lens holder 600 to each other.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 21, line 24, and bridging to page 22, line 1, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Similarly, the suspensions 550C and 550D, which are adjacent to each other when viewed from the focusing direction, are designed such that the dimension t1 between the connection portions 500C and 500D of the suspensions connected to the suspension base 500 is larger than the dimension t2 between the connection portions 600C and 600D of the suspensions connected to the lens holder 600, and virtual extended lines C and D extending in the longitudinal directions of the suspensions ~~550A and 550B~~ 550C and 550D, respectively, intersect with each other at the single point O.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 26, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

For example, as shown in Fig. 13, the line segments linking the connection portions 600A to 600D of the respective suspensions 550A to 550D, which are connected to the lens holder [[12]] 600, with one another are not parallel to the plane of the coil substrate (not shown) mounted to the lens holder 600. Similarly, the line segments linking the connection portions 500A to 500D of the respective suspensions 550A to 550D, which are connected to the suspension base 500, with each other are not in parallel to the plane of the coil substrate.